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Another West German Agency Admits Hiring Ex-Nazi Spies

By Sterling Cooper
The Los Angeles Times
BONN, Aug. 24 (AP) — West German authorities today disclosed that a number of its agents and counterespionage officers are former members of the Nazi SS.

The spokesman said the former Nazis were employed by the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the German Interior Ministry agency charged with guarding against Communist activity, or possible revival of

Nazism. It also carries out counterespionage.

Today's disclosure followed a recent acknowledgment that West Germany's other civilian security group, the Federal Intelligence Agency, had also employed former SS members. The SS, or Schutz Staffeln, was the internal security agency of the Nazi Germany of Adolf Hitler.

The Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, located in Cologne, is headed by Hubert Schmeibner.

The number of agents employed has never been publicly disclosed. It is estimated that the number of agents employed by the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution in 1965 was about 1,000.

According to the former spokesman, the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution has a long history of employing former SS members. He said that the office has a long history of employing former SS members.

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